

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A load handling apparatus for a counterbalance type forklift, comprising:

one tiltable operating lever disposed on a body of the forklift;

a mast tiltable in an anteroposterior direction and disposed on said forklift;

a liftable fork disposed on said mast;

a solenoid proportional control valve, in which a tilting speed of said mast and lifting and lowering speeds of said fork are controlled by a degree of opening of said solenoid proportional control valve, said degree of opening being proportional to a tilting angle of said operating lever;

a switch attached to said operating lever; and

a controller for controlling so as to output a signal for tilting said mast when said operating lever is tilted under a state where said switch is operated, output a signal for lifting or lowering said fork when only said operating lever is operated; and disable actions of lifting and lowering said fork when said switch is changed to an inactive condition under a state where said operating lever is in an tilting operation condition, unless said operating lever is returned to a neutral condition.

2. A load handling apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said controller includes an inhibiting circuit for stopping the tilting action of the mast and the lifting or lowering action of the fork when said switch is released while said operating lever is being operated.